Third Vishwa Hindu Sammelan

†4646. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of men and women who attended the Third Vishwa Hindu Sammelan held recently in Prayag alongwith the names of the countries they hailed from;

(b) whether the Srimadbhagwad Geeta was declared as the National Scripture of India and the same was distributed in different languages of the world;

(c) whether any spiritual books etc. were presented to the Indians in the Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas Programme for safeguarding their life-values; and

(d) if not, whether the same would be considered in future?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Information is being gathered.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Publishers of spiritual books participate in the concurrent exhibition held with Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.

Migrant workers

4647. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of migrant workers who sent abroad during the last ten years, year-wise;

(b) the basic service conditions of these migrant labours; and

(c) the guidelines of Government to regulate the service conditions of migrant labours?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The number of emigrant workers granted emigration clearance

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

by the POEs during the last ten years year-wise is given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) The conditions of the emigrant workers are governed by the employment contract entered into with the Foreign Employer in accordance with the provisions of the Emigration Act. These generally include free food, accommodation, transportation to the work place, medical facility, transportation of dead body etc. Such workers also have the benefit of the protection of local labour laws. In case any violation of service conditions is reported by the emigrant worker to the Indian Mission or to the Government of India, the same is taken up immediately with the Foreign Employer through the Indian Mission for redressal of the grievances. If necessary, the assistance of the local labour welfare authorities is also sought by the Indian Mission.

Statement

The number of emigrant workers granted emigration clearance by POEs during the last ten years year-wise

Year	Total No. of workers (in lakhs approx.)
1997	4.98
1998	3.55
1999	2.39
2000	2.43
2001	2.79
2002	3.68
2003	4.66
2004	4.75
2005	5.49
2006	6.77
TOTAL	41.49